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COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION
Thirty-fifth session
15 May-9 June 1995
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF WORK

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations.

4. Programme questions:

   (a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997;

   (b) Evaluation.

5. Coordination questions:

   Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination.

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit.

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Committee.

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-fifth session.

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Annotations

1. Election of officers

At its thirty-fourth session, the Committee elected a Chairman, three Vice-Chairmen and a Rapporteur. At its thirty-fifth session, the Committee may wish to elect the Chairman from the Group of Eastern European States in accordance with the agreed pattern of rotation for the post of Chairman, and the Rapporteur from the regional group that had occupied the post of Chairman the previous year, namely the Group of African States.

2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

Pursuant to paragraph 2 (e) of Economic and Social Council resolution 1979/41 of 10 May 1979 and paragraph 2 of General Assembly resolution 34/50 of 23 November 1979, the Committee submitted to the Council and the Assembly for their review the provisional agenda for its thirty-fifth session, together with the list of documentation requested. The present provisional agenda and list of documentation also take into account decisions taken by the Council and the Assembly since the last session of the Committee.

3. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations

In its resolution 45/254 A of 21 December 1990, the General Assembly decided to continue considering annually the administrative, structural and other aspects of the improvement of the efficiency of the Organization, and requested the Secretary-General to report accordingly. By its decision 47/454 of 23 December 1992, the Assembly decided, without prejudice to its existing relevant resolutions, to consider the roles and coverage of the subsidiary bodies responsible for coordination, administrative questions and budgetary matters, including the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Board of Auditors, the Joint Inspection Unit and the Committee for Programme and Coordination, with a view to improving the effectiveness of their oversight and coordination mechanisms, and requested the Secretary-General to provide relevant background material together with his views and those of the bodies concerned to the Assembly as soon as possible, but not later than at its forty-ninth session. The Committee is therefore requested to express its view as soon as possible during the course of its thirty-fifth session, pursuant to the above-mentioned decision of the Assembly.

4. Programme questions

(a) Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997

Pursuant to its terms of reference (Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX) of 14 May 1976, annex), the Committee will consider the proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997. In accordance with the Regulations Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation, the Secretary-General shall provide the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions with advance

copies of the proposed programme budget by the end of April of the year preceding the budgetary period; the Committee shall prepare a report on the proposed programme budget, containing its programme recommendations and its general assessment of the related resource proposals; and it shall receive a statement by the Secretary-General on the programme budget implications of its recommendations.

It will be recalled that, in accordance with the new budget process established by the General Assembly in its resolution 41/213 of 19 December 1986, the Committee, at its thirty-fourth session, considered an outline of the proposed programme budget and submitted conclusions and recommendations to the Assembly. In its resolution 49/217 of 23 December 1994, the Assembly decided on a preliminary estimate of resources for the budget and the size of the contingency fund. The Assembly reaffirmed that the outline should provide a greater level of predictability of resources required for the following biennium, promote a greater involvement of Member States in the budgetary process, and thereby facilitate the broadest possible agreement on the programme budget.

Also in resolution 49/217, the Assembly noted that the preliminary estimate included a provision to reinforce backstopping of peace-keeping operations, and requested the Secretary-General, in preparing his proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997, to base his request on such decisions as the Assembly may take on the question of criteria for sharing the costs of backstopping peace-keeping operations.

Documentation

Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (in fascicle form)

(b) Evaluation

At its thirty-fourth session, the Committee considered the progress report on the in-depth evaluation of peace-keeping operations: start-up phase (E/AC.51/1994/3 and Corr.1), and, subject to the views and comments of members of the Committee during the discussion, endorsed recommendation 25 concerning the final report on the in-depth evaluation of peace-keeping operations: start-up phase. The Committee took note of recommendations 1 to 24 and agreed that the General Assembly would have to review the recommendations in the light of possible statements of programme budget implications during its forty-ninth session. The Committee will have before it at its thirty-fifth session the final report on the subject.

At its thirty-fourth session, the Committee adopted a timetable for evaluation according to which it will undertake in 1995 an in-depth evaluation of the programme on environment. The Committee will have before it at its thirty-fifth session a report on the subject.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of peace-keeping operations: start-up phase (E/AC.51/1995/2)

Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on environment (E/AC.51/1995/3)

5. Coordination questions:

Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination

In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2008 (LX), the Committee will have before it the annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1994.

The Committee will also have before it the report of the twenty-eighth series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination, held at Headquarters on 27 October 1994.

Documentation

Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1994 (E/1995/___)

Report of the twenty-eighth series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination (E/1995/4)

6. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit

It will be recalled that, at its organizational meeting each year, the Committee selects the Joint Inspection Unit reports to be considered at its regular session of that year from a list of titles to be made available by the secretariat of the Unit, including the titles of reports projected for the following two years.

The attention of the Committee is drawn to General Assembly resolution 42/218 of 21 December 1987, whereby the Assembly requested all bodies of the United Nations system to examine closely those reports of the Joint Inspection Unit which were within their respective areas of competence and to comment, as appropriate, on the recommendations contained therein. The attention of the Committee is also drawn to Assembly resolution 45/237 of 21 December 1990.

In its resolution 48/221 of 23 December 1993, the General Assembly, inter alia, invited the Joint Inspection Unit, in its future work programmes, to put more emphasis on inspection and evaluation to ensure optimum use of funds in order to enhance the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations system. It also requested the Joint Inspection Unit, when appropriate, to provide in its reports information on estimated financial implications or possible cost-savings resulting from implementation of the recommendations formulated therein.

In the same resolution, the General Assembly called upon the Joint Inspection Unit to follow up on the implementation of its recommendations and to include the relevant information regularly in its annual reports. The Assembly also invited the Joint Inspection Unit to maintain a close relationship with the Committee for Programme and Coordination, the International Civil Service Commission, the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, the Board of Auditors, the Panel of External Auditors and organizations and bodies within the United Nations system in order to ensure greater and more cost-effective coordination of their respective activities for the promotion of management efficiency, greater accountability and transparency of the United Nations and other participating organizations, and requested the executive heads of the participating organizations to increase their efforts to make detailed and timely comments on Joint Inspection Unit reports and to ensure that their governing bodies consider those reports.

7. Provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Committee

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1894 (LVII) of 1 August 1974, the Committee will have before it the draft provisional agenda for its thirty-sixth session, with an indication of the documents to be submitted under each agenda item and the legislative authority for their preparation, in order to enable the Committee to consider those documents from the point of view of their contribution to the work of the Committee, their urgency and their relevance in the light of the current situation.

In resolution 1979/41, the Council decided that the provisional agendas for its subsidiary bodies, together with the list of requested documentation, should be submitted to the Council for review, in order, inter alia, to establish greater consistency between the documentation of those bodies and the overall documentation requested by the Council and other subsidiary bodies and greater consistency between the requests for documentation and the medium-term plan and the programme budget.

The Council, in its resolution 1989/114 of 28 July 1989 on further measures for the implementation of its resolution 1988/77 on the revitalization of the Council, urged its subsidiary bodies to implement fully Council resolution 1979/41 in submitting to the Council for consideration their provisional agendas together with the list of requested documentation, with a view to ensuring greater consistency in requests for documentation and improving reporting procedures. In this connection, it will be recalled that the Council has urged all its subsidiary bodies to exercise the utmost restraint in making requests of the Secretary-General for new reports and studies and to implement fully the decisions of the Council and the General Assembly with respect to the control and limitation of documentation (see Council resolutions 1981/83 and 1982/50).

In its decision 1983/163 of 22 July 1983, the Council requested the Secretary-General to bring to the attention of intergovernmental and expert bodies, before decisions were adopted, any request for documentation that exceeded the ability of the Secretariat to prepare and process on time and within its approved resources and to draw the attention of intergovernmental bodies to areas where duplication of documentation was likely to occur and/or

where opportunities for integrating or consolidating documents that dealt with related or similar themes might exist, with a view to rationalizing documentation.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the provisional agenda and documentation for the thirty-sixth session of the Committee.

8. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-fifth session

The report of the Committee on its thirty-fifth session will be submitted to the Economic and Social Council at its substantive session of 1995 and to the General Assembly at its fiftieth session.

Attention is drawn to Economic and Social Council resolution 1989/114, in which the Council requested its subsidiary bodies to highlight policy recommendations and decisions resulting from their deliberations for consideration and appropriate action by the Council.

Annex I

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF WORK

ORGANIZATIONAL SESSION FOR 1995

Friday, 21 April	Election of officers [1]
	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work [2]
	Provisional agenda and note by the Secretariat on the status of documentation for the session (E/AC.51/1995/1 and E/AC.51/1995/L.1)
	Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit [6]
	Selection of the report(s) to be considered by the Committee at its thirty-fifth session

THIRTY-FIFTH SESSION

Monday, 15 May and Tuesday, 16 May	Programme questions [4]
	Evaluation [4 (b)]
	Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of peace-keeping operations: start-up phase (E/AC.51/1995/2)
	Report of the Secretary-General on the in-depth evaluation of the programme on environment (E/AC.51/1995/3)
Wednesday, 17 May	Coordination questions [5]
	Report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination and preparations for the Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination
	Annual overview report of the Administrative Committee on Coordination for 1994 (E/1995/___)
	Report of the twenty-eighth series of Joint Meetings of the Committee for Programme and Coordination and the Administrative Committee on Coordination (E/1995/4)
Thursday, 18 May (a.m.)	Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit [6]
	Report(s) of the Joint Inspection Unit

(p.m.)	1. Reports of the Joint Inspection Unit [6]
	2. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [3]
Friday, 19 May (a.m.)	Informal consultations on:
	Programme questions [4]
	Evaluation [4 (b)]
(p.m.)	Informal consultations on:
	Coordination questions [5]
Monday, 23 May and Tuesday, 24 May	Programme questions [4]
	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 [4 (a)]
	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 (in fascicle form) (A/49/___)
	Introduction and general discussion
Wednesday, 24 May to Tuesday, 6 June	Programme questions [4]
	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 [4 (a)] (section by section)
Wednesday, 7 June and Thursday, 8 June	Informal consultations on:
	Programme questions [4]
	Proposed programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 [4 (a)]
Friday, 9 June	1. Provisional agenda for the thirty-sixth session of the Committee for Programme and Coordination [7]
	2. Adoption of the report of the Committee on its thirty-fifth session [8]

Annex II

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAMME AND COORDINATION FOR 1995

	Term expires on 31 December
Argentina	1996
Bahamas	1997
Belarus	1996
Benin	1997
Brazil	1996
Cameroon	1996
Canada	1996
China	1995
Comoros	1996
Congo	1996
Cuba	1996
Egypt	1995
France	1997
Germany	1996
Ghana	1997
India	1996
Indonesia	1996
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	1996
Japan	1995
Kenya	1995
Mexico	1997
Netherlands	1996
Nicaragua	1995
Norway	1996
Pakistan	1996
Republic of Korea	1995
Romania	1996
Russian Federation	1997
Senegal	1996

	Term expires on 31 December
Togo	1995
Trinidad and Tobago	1996
Ukraine	1996
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1996
United States of America	1997